

Hadavi, Jason

From: Clare Branson <CBranson@americanbank.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 30, 2013 2:40 PM
To: District Applications
Subject: 10-1 application
Attachments: City of Austin Commission Application FORM.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Here is my application – please feel free to call me if any additional information is needed. Thank you for this opportunity.

Clare Branson

American Bank | Senior Lending Officer
3520 Bee Caves Road, Suite 200 | Austin, Texas 78746
Main (512) 328-9900 | Direct (512) 306-5516 | Fax (512) 328-1200
NMLS# 580521



APPLICATION FOR THE INDEPENDENT CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION

Please submit your completed application
by email to district.applications@austintexas.gov
by mail or in person to:
Office of the City Auditor
301 W. 2nd Street Suite 2130
Austin, TX 78701

10057

*Application Period:
January 18, 2013
through
February 22, 2013*

**FOR ASSISTANCE WITH INTERPRETING KEY TERMS, SEE THE GLOSSARY
AT THE END OF THIS APPLICATION**

**MORE DETAILS ABOUT THE APPLICATION PROCESS CAN BE FOUND IN
THE CITY AUDITOR'S INTERPRETIVE GUIDANCE AND THE CITY CHARTER
AT WWW.AUSTINTEXAS.GOV/10-ONE**

You must submit an electronic application to district.applications@austintexas.gov
or provide a signed application to the Office of the City Auditor in person or by mail at:

301 W. 2nd Street, Suite 2130

Austin, TX 78701

Submission Deadline: February 22, 2013

DUTIES AND TERMS OF SERVICE

Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission duties include:

1. Conduct duties with integrity and fairness.
2. Conduct an open and transparent process to enable full public consideration of and comment on the drawing of district lines to include an open hearing process.
3. Draw district lines in accordance with specific redistricting criteria in the Charter.
4. Adopt a final redistricting plan and certify the plan to the Austin City Council.
5. Issue a report that explains the basis on which the Commission made its decisions.

Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission Member terms of service include:

1. Members of the Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission (Commission) will not be compensated for serving, but are eligible to receive reimbursement of reasonable and necessary expenses related to Commission duties. Guidance on what is considered "reasonable and necessary" will be provided by the appropriate authority at a later date.
2. Serve a term of office that expires when the first member of the succeeding Commission is appointed in the year after the next national census is taken.
3. Members of the Commission will be subject to the following restrictions on their future activities:
 - For a period of **10** years beginning from the date that a person is appointed to the Commission, the person **will not** be eligible to be elected to the Austin City Council.
 - For a period of **three** years beginning from the date that a person is appointed to the Commission, the person **may not** hold appointed office for the City of Austin.
 - For a period of **three** years beginning from the date that a person is appointed to the Commission, the person **may not**:
 - Serve as a City employee or as a paid consultant to the City of Austin.
 - Serve as a paid consultant to a member of the City Council in the council member's private capacity; or
 - Receive a non-competitively bid contract with the City of Austin.

APPLICATION FOR THE
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Please complete this section legibly.

Name of Applicant: Branson Clare Lynn
(Last) (First) (Middle) (Suffix)

Voter Registration Number (VUID): 1140052468

Residence Address (must be a fixed location in the City of Austin):

5207 Crooked Oak Cove Austin TX 78749
(Street Address) (City) (State) (Zip)

Mailing Address (if different from Residence Address)

5207 Crooked Oak Cove Austin TX 78749
(Street Address or PO Box) (City) (State) (Zip)

Contact Phone: 512-466-7858

Contact Email Address: cbranson@americanbank.com

Spouse's Name: none
(Last) (First) (Middle) (Suffix)

13-01-30P03:14-RCVD

**APPLICATION FOR THE
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Please check YES or NO by each requirement. If you answer YES to question one (1), you may skip questions four (4) and five (5).

1. Are you a student enrolled in a community college or university in the City of Austin? ☐ Yes ☒ No
2. Do you reside in the City of Austin? ☒ Yes ☐ No
3. Are you registered to vote in the City of Austin? ☒ Yes ☐ No
4. Have you been continuously registered to vote in the City of Austin for the five years immediately preceding the date on which you submit this application? ☒ Yes ☐ No
5. Please indicate whether you voted in the following City of Austin general elections (or corresponding runoff if applicable):

City of Austin General Elections	Candidate Response
May 12, 2012	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
May 14, 2011	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
May 9, 2009	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
May 10, 2008	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
May 13, 2006	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Conflicts of Interest

The information below is required to help the City Auditor identify any conflict of interest you may have.

Within 5 years of the application date, have you or your spouse:	
Been appointed to a state or city office?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Been elected to a state or city office?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Been a candidate for a state or city office?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Served as an officer, employee, or paid consultant of a political party?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Served as an officer, employee, or paid consultant of the campaign committee of a candidate for elective state, county, or city office?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Been a registered state or local lobbyist?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Within 3 years of the application date, have you or your spouse been:	
A paid employee of the City of Austin?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
A person performing paid services under a professional or political contract to the City of Austin or the City Council of the City of Austin?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
A controlling person of a person performing paid services under a professional or political contract to the City of Austin or the City Council of the City of Austin?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
A person performing paid services under a professional or political contract to any member of the City Council of the City of Austin?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
A controlling person of a person performing paid services under a professional or political contract to any member of the City Council of the City of Austin?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
In the last City Election did you or your spouse:	
Contribute or bundle one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or more in aggregate to candidates for City of Austin elective office?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Personal Background Information

- **Ethnicity:** anglo
- **Race:** white
- **Gender:** ☐ Male ☒ Female
- **Age: (Please check your response)**
☐ 18 to 24 ☐ 25 to 34 ☐ 35 to 44 ☒ 45 to 54 ☐ 55 to 64 ☐ 65+
- **Education level: (Please check any that apply)**
☐ High School Diploma or GED
☐ Some College (major _____)
☐ Associate's Degree (major _____)
☒ Bachelor's Degree (major Economics & Marketing)
☐ Post-Graduate Degree, indicate highest degree attained: (subject _____)

Qualifications

Please describe your relevant analytical skills.

I am currently a construction loan officer for a community bank. I have functioned in that role with various banks in Austin since the 1980's. This gives me a familiarity with many areas of Austin and a background of using salient facts to make prudent lending decisions - this could be helpful in analyzing factors for voting districts. I received a BBA from Baylor University in 1979. I graduated magna cum laude with a double major in Economics and Marketing.

Please describe your ability to be impartial.

As a loan officer, regulatory guidelines require that applicants be considered solely upon their qualifications - impartiality is expected of me on a daily basis. I am also a compassionate individual that is always looking for the personal story behind the paperwork. I have served on the board of Austin Junior Forum for several years as treasurer of this local non profit organization. Our mission to provide services to women, children and the elderly in the Austin area has allowed me to serve clients of other non-profits and become familiar with areas of town that are populated by lower income residents. AJF members are encouraged to humbly meet the needs of those we serve.

Please describe your appreciation for the City of Austin's diverse demographics and geography.

Austin is blessed with a unique mix of residents from around the country and around the world. While some of the diversity could be attributed to the University of Texas, I think the mix of artists, musicians and entrepreneurs creates an atmosphere that invites others to experience it for themselves. I especially enjoy the mystery in standing in line at the grocery store - everyone is casual and folks from all walks of life blend together. There is no judging a book by its cover here - the guy next to you in ratty shorts and flip flops could have just launched an IPO!

As a construction lender, I see areas of town exploding with new homes where no construction was expected 30 years ago. This also blends together people whose paths might never have crossed into neighbors - forming a very tight bond with a common goal to improve your little section of the city.

When I speak to loan officers from other parts of the country, they always ask if there is a "bad" part of town. The answer for Austin is "no" - a beautiful street or individual home can be alongside something with less appeal - even in the snazzy zip codes, there are niches of older homes. In the lower income areas, there are beautiful streets and subdivisions. It is a great mix which improves the lifestyle of all residents.

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Please provide any other information you wish to be considered during the selection of the most qualified applicants for the Commission.

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DISCLAIMER

By submitting this application, I understand that I am giving the City Auditor permission to release my information to the public. In particular, I affirmatively consent to the release of the contact email address I have provided.

If I am appointed, my address, contact phone number and contact email address will be included on the City of Austin's website.

I understand my application is public information under the Texas Public Information Act. The information will be kept according to the City Auditor's records retention policies.

I understand that my participation on the Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission is voluntary.

I understand the duties and terms of service for the Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission as described above.

Under penalty of law, I swear or affirm that the preceding information in this application is in all things true and correct.

Clare L. Branson

Signature of Applicant

If submitting electronically, please type your full name in the signature box.

1/30/13

Date

GLOSSARY

- “Bundle” means to raise money as an intermediary for a council candidate by soliciting contributions on the candidate’s behalf.
- “Campaign committee” in regard to an “officer, employee or paid consultant of a campaign committee” means a candidate or a specific purpose political committee supporting or opposing a candidate.
- “Candidate” for elective office means a person whose name appeared on a ballot, or who was a declared write-in candidate, in a general or primary election. It does not mean a person who merely announced a candidacy or only filed campaign finance filings. This definition attempts to construe the term against ineligibility, avoid ambiguity and disputes of fact, and use the term in the way most commonly understood by a lay person.
- “City” means Austin.
- “City elective office” means the office of mayor and city council member.
- “City employee” means an employee on the City payroll, including a temporary or part-time employee. The term does not include an independent contractor. This definition follows the definition in Section 2-7-2 of the City Code.
- “City office,” with respect to appointment, means a municipal court judgeship (including a substitute judgeship), and membership on a commission, committee, board, task force, or other City body appointed by the mayor or the city council. This definition follows the definition of “city official” in Section 2-7-2 of the City Code, excluding those City officials who are covered separately as City employees.
- “Community college or university in the City of Austin” means a degree-granting post-secondary educational institution, accredited by a recognized accrediting agency under the Education Code, that grants one or more of the following: an associate’s degree, a bachelor’s degree, a master’s degree, or a doctorate, and that regularly conducts classes where the instructor and two or more students are physically present in a physical location within Austin’s city limits.
- “Contribution,” for purposes of calculating aggregate contributions to candidates for City elective office, includes all contributions to candidates for mayor and city council, and contributions to specific purpose political committees supporting or opposing those candidates.
- “County” refers to a county in which the City of Austin has territory.
- “County elective office” means an office that is voted on county-wide or an office that is voted on by the voters of a precinct drawn by a commissioners court.
- “Employee” with respect to a political party or campaign committee means a person who was paid a salary by the political party or campaign committee.
- “Local lobbyist” means a person required to register under Chapter 4-8 of the City Code.
- “Non-competitively bid contract” means a contract which must be awarded as provided in Section 252.043 of the Local Government Code (“lowest responsible bidder” or “best value for the municipality”).

- “Officer” with respect to the “campaign committee of a candidate for elective state, county or city office” means:
 - the campaign treasurer of a candidate for an elective state, county, or city office;
 - the campaign treasurer of a specific purpose political committee that supported or opposed a candidate for an elective state, county, or city office; or
 - an officer or director of an incorporated specific purpose political committee, incorporated for liability purposes only under Section 253.092 of the Texas Election Code, that supported or opposed a candidate for an elective state, county, or city office.
- “Officer” with respect to a political party means a precinct chair, a county chair, or a member of a party executive committee under Title 10 of the Texas Election Code.
- “Paid Consultant” with respect to work done for a political party or campaign committee means a person who was paid monetary consideration for providing legal services, accounting services, public relations services, statistical or polling services, or political or campaign-related services or advice.
- “Paid Consultant” with respect to the three year ban on paid consultancy with a council member, means having a “political or professional contract” with a council member as defined in this guidance.
- “Political or professional contract,” in the context of a contract with a council member, means a contract with a council member under which, in return for consideration, a person provided expert advice or personal services related to a council member's duties or to the council member's service as a council member, or provided advice about the conduct of campaign activities or holding office, or provided services to a council member that would be reportable on the council member's required campaign and officeholder filings under Title 15 of the Texas Election Code; Article III, §8 of the Austin City Charter; or Chapter 2-2 of the Austin City Code. This does not include a contract solely for the sale of goods.
- “Political party” means a political party that appeared on the ballot in any of the last three general elections for state and county officers.
- “Professional contract,” in the context of a contract with the City means a non-competitively bid contract other than a contract solely for the sale of goods.
- “State” means Texas.
- “State office” means an office held by a “state officer” as defined in Section 572.002 of the Government Code.
 - In the context of an appointment to a state office, “state office” means: the office of Secretary of State, an office of a state agency subject to appointment for a term of office specified by the Texas Constitution or a statute of this state; an office subject to appointment with the advice and consent of the senate; the position of executive head of a state agency; or a state office subject to election but filled by appointment because of a vacancy or because the office is newly created.
 - In the context of candidacy or election to a state office, “state office” means a seat in the legislature, an executive or judicial office filled in a statewide election; a judgeship of a court of appeals or of a district court; membership on the State Board of Education; or the position of district attorney or criminal district attorney.
- “Student” means a person actively enrolled in a community college or university on the date of the person’s application to the Commission.

